

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 27, 2014



Time for Churches of Christ to Fellowship Other Groups? [Part 2]

3. Shall We Abandon Scripture?

This third question is the absolute most important point. The popular view of Scripture is that it is so vague, confusing, and open to interpretation that no one can truly figure out God's will. What does such a view say about God? It says God is a poor communicator.

But I reject that view. I believe God is the perfect communicator. I believe God has communicated clearly and precisely. There is nothing wrong with how God communicated His will to mankind. The problem lies with our hearing, not His speaking. Paul says if we will be transformed by the renewing of our minds, we will be able to "discern what is the will of God" (Romans 12:2). God's will is understandable, if we will be transformed in our thinking and submit ourselves fully to Him.

For instance, when it comes to baptism, how much clearer could God have been?

"Baptism, which corresponds to this, **now saves you**, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a ...

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
each Sunday at 12:30

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21, emphasis mine).

"Whoever believes and is baptized **will be saved**, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16, emphasis mine).

"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ **have put on Christ**" (Galatians 3:27, emphasis mine).

I'm not willing to claim I have arrived at a perfect understanding of God's will. In fact, I'm quite confident that I have not. But there are matters in Scripture that are as clear as can be. Again, my convictions could be wrong, my logic could be faulty, but God's word is never wrong (John 17:17). Until someone can show me that baptism is NOT "for the forgiveness of sins" (Acts 2:38), I cannot change my mind or embrace those who reject this simple truth.

Can There Ever Be Unity?

I desperately want unity. I desperately want all who believe Jesus is the Christ to be one. More importantly, that's what Jesus wants (John 17). But in order for that to happen, we must come to an agreement on some things first; namely, how a person becomes a Christian in the first place.

Please understand what I'm saying here. Every disagreement should NOT be a matter of fellowship. Some matters are "weightier" than others (Matthew 23:23). One extreme says, "No matter how vast our differences, we are all Christians. There is no such thing as apostasy or heresy." But on the other end of the spectrum, there are those who say, "If you and I disagree - on anything - one of us is not really a Christian." We must avoid the illogical position that everyone is right, while also avoiding the other - equally unbiblical - extreme.

I've said it before and I'll say it again, a sign above a church building door does ...

... not make a congregation a church of Christ. A congregation of people is a church of Christ if they are Christians and are following Christ. I am more than happy to embrace, in Christian fellowship, anyone who is a Christian and is doing their best to live for Him.

And with those who are not yet Christians, I want a dialogue. I want to study through these issues. I want us to come to a common understanding. If I'm the one who is wrong, then show me where I'm wrong and I'll change my mind. But please don't ask me to abandon logic, conviction, and Scripture in order to say everyone is right.

I love you and God loves you,

Wes McAdams

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UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

1. August 1: Coldwater Lock-In
2. August 23: Memphis Redbirds Game
Not just for youth; for all ages!
3. August 29: Fifth Friday Youth Devo
@Andy & Molly's House
4. September 27: Memphis Zoo Trip
Also for all ages!

A Brief Note from the Newlyweds

Dear Coldwater family,

Thank you for your continual prayers on our behalf. Special thanks to the men who taught and preached in Clifton's absence.

We thoroughly enjoyed the reception, and we are thankful for each one who was present. We want to extend special gratitude to the ladies who worked so diligently to make the celebration yesterday possible.

We love each of you and we look forward to our time together working in the Lord's kingdom!

In Christian Love,

Clifton & Lara Angel

*Love one another,
for love is of God*

1 John 4:7

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Seth Daniel, taking medication equivalent to chemo, which causes great fatigue and sickness, medication ending October, positive prognosis; **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**; **Helen Bowman**.

NetCasters
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Janet Colvett, Jeffrey's mother, leukemia has returned, receiving treatments; **Amanda Cummings**, young mother with cancer; **Danielle Key**, young mother with cancer; **Trent Childers**, recovering from colonectomy; **Charles Savage**, treatment July 21-22; **Andy's grandmother**, hospice; **Carla Carlson**, cancer, continuously receiving chemo; **Janie Brister**; **Ava Roten**, **Brett Rutherford**, **Jason Spencer**; **Frankie Burfield**, cancer; **Jack Higginbotham**; **Tasha Higginbotham**, on donor list for kidney transplant; **Lauren Harrell**, breast cancer; **James Cooper**, Jan's brother, cancer; **Marie Sims**; **Renee Loya**, Ruth's niece, Parkinson's, MS, & dystonia; **Eli Williams**, cancer returned, receiving treatments; **Ray Maples**; **John & Anita Simpson**; **Martha Hatfield**, Lynn's grandmother, stage 4 cancer; **Virginia Johnson**, stage 4 lung cancer; **Joy Angel**, various health problems; **Linda Perkins**, leukemia; **Mac Owen**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris.

Birthdays

7/3	Ruth Brister	7/13	Seth Daniel
7/4	Inez Neyman	7/14	Jason Bayless
7/4	Jimmy Sowell	7/19	Toranda House
7/5	Layla Johnson	7/24	Jayce Brown
7/6	Cali Bayless	7/31	Porter Ferrell
7/7	Aemon Ratliff		

Anniversaries

7/3 Sammy & Grace Williams

Get Involved!

POWER Lectureship at Southaven

July 27 – 31, See schedule on bulletin board

Coldwater Singing Night -- July 30 -- 7 PM

Coldwater Youth Lock-in -- Aug 1

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- Aug 3

Between services

Providence Place Devo -- Aug 10 -- 2 PM

Memphis Redbirds Game -- Aug 23

For all ages

Fifth Friday Youth Devo -- Aug 29

@ the house of Andy & Molly

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, July 27

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jeffrey Ferrell
Announcements	Andy Ratliff
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jason Bayless
	Billy Bland
Assist	Geoffrey Dunn
	Joe Owen
Opening Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Jim Jackson

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Johnny Bayless
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Billy Bland
	Geoffrey Dunn
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Moore

Wednesday, July 30

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Andy Ratliff